



Department of State

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ACTION PPT-00

INFO OCT-01 KEA-10, ISO-00 CA-01 DHA-05 SCS-05 SSO-00
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FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0369

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TAGS INFO)

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CASC, CVIS, CPAS, IS:
SUBJECT: GROUP OF BLACK AMERICAN TOURISTS TO ISRAEL

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR	
REVIEWED BY <u>JL</u>	DATE <u>8/18/81</u>
RDS ☐ or XDS ☐ EXT. DATE _____	
TS AUTH. _____ REASON(S) _____	
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐	
DECLASSIFIED ☐ RELEASABLE ☒	
RELEASE DENIED ☐	
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS _____	

1. MINISTRY OF INTERIOR OFFICIAL NOTIFIED EMBASSY ON MORNING OF SEPTEMBER 23 THAT GROUP OF BLACK AMERICANS (THREE MEN, SIX YOUNG WOMEN AND SIXTEEN CHILDREN) WERE PICKED UP BY POLICE LAST NIGHT AND BROUGHT TO LOD AIRPORT FOR DEPORTATION. GROUP ARRIVED IN ISRAEL ON SEPTEMBER 21 ON TOUR WITH WHOLESALE TOURS, INC., 307 PARK AVENUE SO., N.Y., N.Y. 10016. THE GROUP INFORMED ISRAELI AUTHORITIES THEY INTENDED TO STAY IN JERUSALEM AND GO ONLY TO JORDAN RIVER FOR BAPTISM. ISRAELI AUTHORITIES PUT TRACE ON GROUP AND PART OF GROUP WERE PICKED UP AT 2:00 A.M. SEPTEMBER 23, IN MINIBUS OUTSIDE OF BEERSHEVA AND REST OF GROUP ARRESTED IN JERUSALEM. POLICE AUTHORITIES ALSO INFORMED US THAT DRIVER OF MINIBUS WAS BIG GABRIEL, MEMBER OF BLACK HEBREW COMMUNITY WHO IS EMBASSY'S LIAISON ON WELFARE AND WHEREABOUT CASES. THE GROUP DESTROYED THEIR PASSPORTS AND AIRLINE TICKETS AND REFUSE TO EAT OR DRINK.

2. MOI WISHES TO DEPORT GROUP AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AS
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GROUP WILL NOT APPLY FOR NEW PASSPORTS, MOI IS CONSIDERING

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ISSUING LAISSEZ-PASSER TO GROUP AND HAVE ASKED IF THERE WOULD BE ANY DIFFICULTY IN GROUP ENTERING U.S. ON THIS DOCUMENT RATHER THAN U.S. PASSPORT. REQUEST DEPARTMENT'S ADVISING US IF GROUP CAN ENTER ON ISRAELI LAISSEZ-PASSER.

3. CONSULAR OFFICER SPOKE BY TELEPHONE WITH MEMBER OF GROUP AND PLANS TO GO TO AIRPORT IMMEDIATELY TO VISIT THEM. AFTER CONSULAR OFFICER SPEAKS WITH GROUP, EMBASSY WILL SEND NAMES AND FURTHER INFORMATION.
VIETS

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